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Message from the Mayor

As students and teachers in the District of Columbia prepare to return to school, let me take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and productive school year. These are challenging times for our city and our schools, but with hard work and dedication on all fronts, we will continue to make progress.

I feel we're moving in the right direction with the recent appointment of Clifford B. Janey as the Superintendent of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). Dr. Janey is a seasoned educator and manager who spent three decades educating students in Boston and Rochester, NY.

On August 17, I joined city leaders and residents to help open the new McKinley Technology High School in Northeast—a beautiful facility that's a symbol of what we can accomplish in the realm of public education here in the District. Just a few years ago, this school was abandoned and in serious need of major repair and renovation.

Now, McKinley will become a critical link between our educational system and the job market of the 21st century, as teachers weave technology throughout the demanding core academic curriculum. As McKinley uses state-of-the-art technology and teaching methods to prepare students for higher education and for high-tech careers, employers will not have to search for employees around the country—our young people will have what it takes to perform these high-tech jobs.

When we talk about school choice, as we have frequently in the past 12 months, I believe it is not just about public schools versus private schools, or even public charter schools versus regular public schools. It is also about choices among our own schools in DCPS. McKinley joins the ranks of other specialty schools in our city—like Duke Ellington, Benjamin Banneker, and School Without Walls.

Our restoration of McKinley could not have taken place without critical public/private partnerships. I believe strongly in the idea—the necessity—of strong partnerships between the government and the private and non-profit sectors.

My vision for public education in the District is one in which every young person will come to school ready to learn, and leave with the necessary skills to be successful in today's technologically advanced society. Furthermore, they will be taught to be responsible citizens and to make valuable contributions to their local and global worlds. And finally, they will have access to adequate social services to support their learning. While we have made major progress, we still have a long way to go and I'm confident we will reach our goals.

Finally, a reminder that going back to school means it's time to ensure that your child has the shots he or she needs to comply with health requirements. For more information about immunization compliance, please call 1(800) MOM-BABY or 1(800) 666-2229. Information is also available on the [DC government](#) and [DC Department of Health](#) websites.



National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials Meets in Cleveland

On Friday, August 20, I had the pleasure of delivering the keynote address to the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO) at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio, for the plenary session, "Our City, Our Future."

As Mayor, I have had the opportunity see the wide-ranging challenges that our nation's cities and towns confront on a daily basis. As the nation's capital, we have some unique challenges.

Among those challenges are the overall tax structure and the lack of voting representation in Congress. First, federal law prohibits the District from taxing income earned within our borders by non-residents, which keeps 70 percent of our workers and three-fourths of the income earned in the District off our tax roles.

Furthermore, we are the only major city in the United States required to provide services that in every other jurisdiction would be covered by the state. This includes mental health services, regulatory functions, post-secondary education and motor vehicle services—all of which we provide without the taxing power of a state.

Second, beyond financial freedom, perhaps the greatest freedom denied to the District and its residents is full voting representation in Congress. The people of the District have been disenfranchised for almost 200 years. Yet despite these unique obstacles, this city government must function. It must provide services to our residents, welcome our visitors, support our businesses and balance our budgets.

The National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials was created in 1970 to represent the interests of African-American elected officials. NBC-LEO's objectives include increasing African-American participation in the National League of Cities' steering and policy committees so that policy and program recommendations reflect African-American concerns and benefit their communities.

Community Profile Willa Mae Womack

Willa Mae Womack has spent more than 15 years helping seniors at the First Baptist Church Senior Center. Every Tuesday and Thursday, she volunteers in the nutrition department, preparing and serving meals for the senior participants.

Willa Mae, a Ward 5 resident and retired federal employee, says she enjoys being a constant companion to the seniors in the home. Her volunteer activities also include shopping for groceries, preparing tax returns and providing transportation. Outside of the First Baptist Church Senior Center, Willa Mae has been the caregiver for two other seniors for more than 20 years. One of the people she cares for will turn 101 years old this year.



Brenda Tucker, director of the Senior Center, said that Willa Mae is "mighty in her giving" and "doesn't leave until everything is finished." Last year Willa Mae was recognized by the center with a plaque for her dedicated service.

"I look forward to volunteering," Willa Mae said. Giving was instilled in Willa Mae at an early age. She grew up taking care of her neighbor's children or doing housekeeping. As long as she can remember, taking care of others was something she has done on a consistent basis.

Willa Mae is the May 2004 adult winner of the Mayor's Community Service Award, sponsored by Serve DC. If you would like to nominate a youth or adult for the monthly award, visit <http://serve.dc.gov> for nomination information, or call (202) 727-9461.



Cafritz Awards for Distinguished DC Government Employees

The 5th Annual Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Awards Program for Distinguished DC Government Employees recognizes and rewards the best performers in District Government. Five winners will be awarded \$7,500 each.

Nominations are welcome from citizens, community and business stakeholders, civic organizations, and government employees. So nominate someone you know who makes life better for the people of DC. Self-nominations are also encouraged.

Nomination forms are available at www.cafritzawards.org and at District government agencies and libraries. The deadline for nominations is September 10, 2004. For more information call (202) 994-5385.

2003 Cafritz Winners included:

- Detective **Mitchell Credle**, Cold Case/Major Case Unit, Violent Crime and Homicide Branch, Metropolitan Police
- **Charles Reischel**, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Office of the Corporation Counsel (now the Office of the Attorney General)
- **Richard Sella**, Director, Returns Processing Administration, Office of Tax and Revenue
- **Douglas Stallworth**, Senior Transportation Planner, Mass Transit Division, Department of Transportation
- Officer **Myra Wheeler Jordan**, Police Officer and Coordinator, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Unit, Metropolitan Police Department

The awards program is administered by the Center for Excellence in Public Leadership at The George Washington University.

Opening of Dupont Circle Krispy Kreme

There are currently 384 locations in the world. Some 357 of them are located in the United States. There are stores in Maryland and Virginia. And now there's one in Washington, DC. What am I talking about? I'm talking about the legendary Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Inc. On August 24, I welcomed the first Krispy Kreme into the District, declaring August 24, 2004, "Krispy Kreme Day" in Washington.

We not only welcomed the arrival of another excellent product to our city, but we are experiencing another tremendous boost to an already thriving business sector at and around Dupont Circle. As some of our readers know, development projects totaling more than \$27 billion have recently been completed or are currently under construction in our city.



When national chains such as Krispy Kreme decide to locate here, it supports our efforts to lure more business to the nation's capital. Through the teamwork of this community, the Krispy Kreme Corporation and the District government, we're making good on that promise.

Krispy Kreme has been a part of the DC Metropolitan area for 58 years. The store in Alexandria opened in late 1946 at 1400 Prince Street. The Prince Street location closed in 1962, only to open at a new location on July 29, 1962, at 6328 Richmond Highway in Alexandria. At the time that it opened, this store was the largest Krispy Kreme operation under one roof.

On January 30, 2003, a new store on Richmond Highway opened next door, replacing the old building. The new store was built from scratch at 6332 Richmond Highway. A Krispy Kreme store in Rockville, Maryland, opened on December 16, 2003 at 14919 Shady Grove Road. The Dupont Circle Krispy Kreme marks the third Krispy Kreme store in the DC area; the first within the District.

I'm pleased that Krispy Kreme will partner with DC Central Kitchen, a local non-profit organization. In 15 years, DC Central Kitchen has grown to become a national model for more than 60 community kitchens operating throughout the United States. For each cup of coffee that was sold at Krispy Kreme in Dupont Circle on August 25, Krispy Kreme donated ground coffee to DC Central Kitchen. Now that's a great partnership!



Lead Based Paint Abatement Demonstration Expo

The District's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Lead Safe Washington (LSW) Program is sponsoring its flagship event, the Lead Based Paint Abatement Demonstration Expo, on Wednesday, September 8, 2004. The event will be held at the East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, at 3732 Minnesota Avenue, NE, from 10 am until noon.

The event will be interactive and feature the High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Vacuum efficient usage station demonstration; lead-based paint chip removal and dust removal sampling; a mock dust hazard inspection site; and a lead safe specialized cleaning illustration. Also on hand will be a Lead Safe Washington Information Kiosk staffed with LSW technicians to respond to questions and the DC Department of Health (DOH) Mobile Testing Van to conduct tests on children 6 and under for lead poisoning.

LSW is supported by grants from the US Department of Housing and Urban Department (HUD) Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control. HUD provides funds to reduce lead paint hazards in eligible single-family and multi-family dwellings. LSW provides funding and technical assistance to eligible homeowners and rental property owners to reduce lead-based paint hazards and achieve lead based paint related regulatory compliance with local and federal law.

DHCD is working in conjunction with several community partners—Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning, East of the River Community Development Corporation, East River Family Strengthening Collaborative and the Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative—to promote and implement the goals of LSW. Officials from other District government agencies, DOH and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, will be participating at various levels to incorporate LSW into their health and enforcement responsibilities.

For additional information on the Lead Based Paint Abatement Demonstration Expo or Lead Safe Washington Program, contact Juanita Britton at (202) 442-7253 or (202) 297-9390.

Research Shows: We Want Baseball!

On August 27, City Administrator Robert Bobb, Councilmember Jack Evans, Councilmember Harold Brazil and Mark Tuohey, chairman of the DC Sports and Entertainment Commission, announced market research showing strong support among Washington-area fans for a Major League Baseball team in the District.

Baseball fans in Northern Virginia, DC and suburban Maryland overwhelmingly prefer a new team located in the District over one in Loudoun County, Virginia, according to the survey, commissioned by the DC Sports and Entertainment Commission. Nearly 80 percent said they were somewhat or very excited about baseball in the District, and 85 percent said they were likely to attend games at a DC stadium.

Polling of adult fans in the Washington area found a strong preference for baseball in DC over a location near Dulles airport in Loudoun County. Respondents said they were three times more likely to attend a game at a DC stadium than a Loudoun County ballpark. Asked to rate the attractiveness of each site on a 5-point scale, area baseball fans rated the DC site 4.1 out of 5.0, while they rated the Dulles-area site 1.7 out of 5.0. Even among fans in Northern Virginia, a DC team and stadium is preferred by a 2 to 1 margin.

According to the survey, fears that a DC team would hurt the Baltimore Orioles fan base appear unfounded. The poll revealed that many baseball fans who do not attend Orioles games would go to games in the District. Fifty-five percent of fans who said they would attend games at a DC ballpark would be new ticket-buyers (people who have not attended an Orioles game this year).

With strong support from the Council and from the business and hospitality communities, we're assuring residents that the financing plan would create more money for the city's general fund—and not place additional burdens on DC's taxpayers. We're looking forward to bringing Major League Baseball to Washington, DC!



Staking a Claim on Unclaimed Property

The District of Columbia Office of Finance and Treasury (OFT) recently released its updated list of unclaimed property, collected during the past six months, which totals more than \$7.3 million in cash and stock. The dollar value owed to individuals and businesses ranges from \$5.85 to more than \$300,000. As part of an aggressive outreach effort to reach individuals and businesses with unclaimed property, advertisements appeared in *The Washington Times* on August 19 and in *The Washington Post* on August 26.

In addition to semi-annual advertisements, the District has expanded its publicity campaign to locate owners of abandoned property using local ads, public service announcements, informational brochures in English, Spanish and Korean, the Internet, and increased community outreach.

Unclaimed property consists of money and other personal assets that are considered lost or abandoned when an owner cannot be located after a specified time frame, usually three years. Abandoned property includes unpaid wages, certificates of deposit, jewelry, paid life insurance policies, utility deposits, gift certificates, Christmas club accounts, and stocks. OFT's Unclaimed Property Unit receives unclaimed property from banks, insurance companies, utility companies, hospitals, universities, and other entities.

Many companies will charge a "finder's" fee to search for unclaimed property; however, in the District, this service is provided at no cost. To learn more about this free government service, visit the agency's website at <http://cfo.dc.gov> under "Unclaimed Property" or call (202) 442-8181.

New Publications from DC Department of Public Works

New publications have hit the District government's website designed to help our residents with recycling, leaf collection, yard waste, household hazards and bulk trash collections.

The District is an environmentally conscious community, and we're growing greener every day. The District's primary solid waste management organization is our Department of Public Works (DPW). DPW workers manage the collection of our city's trash—but they do much more than that. The information in the new brochures will help citizens ensure that certain household items are disposed of properly.

Recycling is an important part of our city's comprehensive solid waste management program. Recycling recovers valuable resources, lessens greenhouse gas emissions and reduces our reliance on landfills and resource recovery plants.

Leaf collection is also a key part of helping manage our city's waste. DPW workers will collect leaves in our city from November 1, 2004, through January 8, 2005. The new brochure includes details about leaf collection for each ward in our city. It also includes recycling tips in Spanish.

To view the new brochures on recycling and leaf collection, please visit DPW's website at: <http://dpw.dc.gov>—and click on "brochures and fact sheets."

For our residents who don't have access to the Internet, you may call DPW's Solid Waste Administration Recycling Hotline at (202) 645-8245.

District Activities



On August 24, Mayor Williams talked to youths participating in a career workshop sponsored by the District's Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs about his role as the Mayor and encouraged them to use their talents and skills to serve the community.



At his weekly news briefing on Wednesday, August 25, Mayor Williams introduced Anita Bonds, his new director of community affairs.



Community News

- [DHS Funds Pregnancy Prevention Campaign for Teens](#)
- [DDOT, Region Launch Anti-Drunk Driving Campaign](#)
- [New School Year Brings Earlier Start to Teen Curfew](#)

[View All News Releases](#)

Upcoming Events

9/8	Lead Based Paint Abatement Demonstration Expo 10 am – 12 pm East River Family Strengthening Collaborative 3732 Minnesota Avenue, NE
9/10 to 9/11	Kalorama Artists' Fair 6 – 10 pm (9/10) 10 am – 5 pm (9/11) 2333 Ontario Road NW (202) 483-8319 ext. 306
9/11	National Press Club 5K Run Sponsored by city living, dc style! 8 am – 12 pm National Press Club 529 14th Street NW (202) 662-7516
9/12	Adams Morgan Day 2004 12 pm – 6 pm 18th Street NW between Columbia Road and Florida Avenue And Unity Park between Columbia Rd, Euclid St and Champlain Sts NW (202) 232-1960
10/6	Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration 6:30 – 9 pm Carlos Rosario Charter School 1100 Harvard Street, NW
10/16	Race for Mental Health 9 am (participants should arrive between 8 am and 8:45 am to get their race packets) Rock Creek Park

